From: Kent Florian
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 2:17pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to take a moment to express my concern with the proposed settlement terms in the Microsoft antitrust case.

As a computer professional who has worked in the field for over fifteen years, I have been witness to Microsoft's abuses of its market position countless times. I have also seen the government attempt to put an end to Microsoft's unfair practices in the past, to no avail.

The current settlement agreement does nothing to address the harm that Microsoft has already caused in the marketplace, including companies that have folded due to uncompetitive practices and consumers that have been forced to pay for products that they are not using due to bundling agreements.

Microsoft has proven over and over again that they are not a good corporate citizen, that they are perfectly capable of finding ways around any minor restictions placed in their path, and that they have no interest in obeying both the letter and the spirit of the law.

Now is the time to hold Microsoft accountable for their abuses, not to merely shake a finger at them and tell them that they have misbehaved. If the proposed settlement agreement is accepted as it now stands, it will do nothing but reinforce the fact that it is perfectly acceptable for a monopolistic corporation to implement any abuses it sees fit, and even if they are caught, the punishment will be so minor that it will be an acceptable tradeoff. This option is just plain wrong.

Thank you for your time,

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